

THE TIMES

THE TIMES COMPANY.

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1902.

A CALL TO VIRGINIA.

The political situation in the United States is giving the true Democrats much concern. They recognize in President Roosevelt a man of chivalrous impulses, a man of character and a patriot. But he is none the less a man of impulses and of dangerous impulses. Time and again since he has been President he has acted upon the feeling of the moment, without stopping to weigh the consequences, trusting to luck, it would seem, to pull him through. He has shocked the business world, he has shocked Southern society, he has shocked the Democracy of the country by his impulsive acts from time to time. Moreover, Mr. Roosevelt is a nationalist. He believes in a strong government. In a great army and a great navy. He believes in taking away the powers of the State and lodging them in the Federal Government. He has been preaching the doctrine of nationalism up and down the land, and the conservative men of both parties are afraid of him.

On the other hand, the socialistic sentiment has grown to an alarming extent. There are many who believe that the government should own and control the great business interests, and Mr. Hill, of New York, recognized that sentiment and catered to it when he inserted the famous coal plank in the Democratic platform. With Republicanism on one side and Socialism on the other, there is no safety to the republic except in the true Democracy of the United States. Democrats are opposed to both Republicanism and Socialism, and they alone stand for a government of the people, by the people, for the people, and with as little as possible of government interference in the private affairs of men.

It is time for the Democracy to assert itself; it is time for all the true Democrats of the land to put aside their minor differences and rally around the flag. All students of American politics agree that the South is the nursery of the Democratic idea. Democracy has always been found in the South in its purity, and there has been more of pure Democracy here than in any other section. Without meaning to reflect upon other sections, it must also be admitted that the most respectable and the most influential part of the Democratic party is in the South. The Democracy of the South is stronger in numbers and its voice must always be heard in the national Democratic conventions.

It seems to us, therefore, that this is peculiarly a time for the Southern Democracy to rally and assert itself; it seems to us that this is peculiarly a time for Virginia Democracy to rally and assert itself. In this State we have many Democrats of brain and standing, who enjoy the respect and confidence of the whole nation, and we believe that it is in the power of such Democrats to mark out the policy to be pursued in the campaign of 1904. We think that it would be a national blessing if all the Democrats of Virginia would get together and issue an address to their brother Democrats in all parts of the land, re-declaring and reasserting the cardinal principles of Democracy, and inviting the Democrats of other States to take similar action. We do not mean by this to glorify Virginia, nor to make it appear that Virginia Democrats are better than others. But there is magic in the name of Virginia. She is affectionately known as the "Mother of States and of Statesmen," and she always gets the ear of the nation when she speaks. We believe that it is time for her to speak and to speak in words that burn.

We have no definite plan; we simply make a suggestion. We should like to see a harmonious conference of the true and loyal Democrats of Virginia, to be held at some convenient place, to discuss the situation and to issue an address. It should not be a one-sided conference, it should not be the conference of a clique or faction, it should not be a mere partisan affair to exploit some pet doctrine of some element in the party. It should be an all-around conference of Democratic patriots, who love Democracy, who love their country and who would see it saved from the dangers which threaten.

We have reason to believe that leading Democrats at the North would be more than pleased to see such a conference in Virginia, to see Virginia take the lead in the movement, whose purpose should be to revive the Democratic spirit and to put the Democratic party in fighting trim for the next national contest. If the suggestion seems worthy to any of our Democratic brethren and contemporaries throughout the State we should be pleased to hear from them.

MR. COMPERS TALKS SEVERE.

Mr. Samuel Compers, speaking as president of the American Federation of Labor, at its annual convention now in session in New Orleans, charges that "the subtle enemies of organized labor have stimulated and advocated compulsory arbitration, which he claims, would prove a much greater injury and danger to labor than the ills of which it complains. He states that organized labor wants arbitration only "when voluntarily entered into by both the organized workers and employers, and when the award will be voluntarily adhered to by both sides."

In this Mr. Compers shows his good

sense and shows that he has regard for the individual rights of American citizens. Compulsory arbitration will do in those countries where the government is stronger than the people and where it exercises a sort of paternal care over its constituents. But it will not do in America, for it is contrary to the underlying principles of our government. If we grant that the government can compel men to arbitrate their disputes we must also concede that the government can prevent men from striking and can compel them to work. The whole doctrine is as wrong as it can be and will never find a foothold in this free land.

But apart from the principle involved we do not believe that compulsory arbitration in America would accomplish any good results. When men agree of their own will to arbitrate they are in a frame of mind to accept the decision of the court, and having agreed to accept they are under a moral obligation to abide by the consequences whether they like the verdict or not. But if they are compelled against their will to arbitrate and the verdict does not suit this side or that, or either side, there can be no harmony thereafter between the parties to the dispute. Liberty of thought and action is the precious heritage of the American people. It is a part of their very nature and they cannot be spirit like dumb cattle. So long as the spirit of liberty lives there will be no place in our government for compulsory arbitration or any measure akin to it.

A DISTINCTION.

The Halifax Record-Advertiser agrees with The Times in opposing government interference in the private affairs of life, and says that there is not much difference after all between the two papers in the matter under discussion. It seems, however, that by some sort of an error the position of our Halifax contemporary was misstated, as will appear from the following extract from that paper:

"The Times, without intention, of course, perverts the meaning of one of our sentences by substituting a word we did not use. It quotes us as saying 'that the haughty arrogance of a few coal barons has been indifferent to the public good and defied the highest public authorities, especially when their power is exercised in support of the wrongful claims of capital and greed.' By substituting 'respectability' for 'arrogance' in the last clause, it made us say the opposite of what we did say. The sentence as published in this paper is as follows:

"The haughty arrogance of a few coal barons has been indifferent to the public good, and defied the highest public authorities, except when their power is exercised in support of the wrongful claims of capital and greed."

The Record-Advertiser says that it was distinctly for the restraint or punishment of wrong-doers that it advocated compulsory settlement. "Surely," adds our contemporary, "The Times is not opposed to punishing wrong-doers." It is not necessary to answer that question, but there is a difference between certain forms of wrong-doing, which we call sin, and wrong-doing in the view of the law. There are many things which are sinful in the sight of God, yet the law has no right to interfere. That is where many good but misguided men and women fall into confusion. The law does not deal with sin per se nor can the law prevent a man from committing sin or punish him for it so long as he commits no trespass. There are many who think that it is a sin to drink ardent spirits; there are many who think that certain conduct on Sunday is sinful, but the law cannot interfere except to prevent men from drinking, and prevent men from desecrating the Sabbath, in a way that is offensive and injurious to society. It is necessary to keep these facts well in mind when we talk about punishing wrong-doing by law.

ACROSS THE SEA.

We present to our readers this morning an interesting budget of foreign news. While Americans are strictly democratic, they are nevertheless interested in the crowned heads of Europe, and our several correspondents to-day make interesting mention of royalty.

It is said of King Edward, of England, that he is evincing a disposition to be something more than the gilded figurehead of a constitutional monarchy, and is determined to take a hand in the actual affairs of government.

It is further related of him that he is still the best dressed man in the kingdom, and our smart set will be interested to know that the King recently appeared at the theatre in the conventional "Tuxedo." It was intimated a short while back that the "Tuxedo" would soon be retired, much to the regret of those who like that convenient and sensible and dressy little garment. But now that King Edward has appeared as its champion it will be more popular than ever.

Max O'Rell tells an interesting story about one of the most beautiful princesses of Europe. He also tells one of the best French stories that we have seen from his pen.

Our Berlin correspondent has an interesting story about the German Crown Prince. But he does not give a very encouraging account of the German Empire from a trade point of view. Indeed, he says that never before has trade been so low an ebb; that the large cities are filled with thousands of the unemployed and that there is great dread of the approaching winter, which promises to be a hard one for the poor.

THE RUSSIFICATION OF FINLAND.

A state of affairs exists in Finland that is an anachronism in the twentieth century. In the Middle Ages, when might was right, it could have been looked upon perhaps with equanimity, but in this day of enlightened conscience it is intolerable. Placing it upon its lowest basis, that of expediency, there is no considerable European government that can afford to allow the usurpations of Russia in Finland to go on unchallenged and unchecked. It is almost impossible by reason of our traditions and policies for the United States to interfere in European politics, but if there ever was a good excuse for the United States to rise up and interfere, it is in this matter of the unwarranted annexation and attempted Russification of Finland entirely against "the consent of the governed."

Finland is the home of a strong, intel-

lectual, industrious and virtuous people. By every international law, the Finns are a free people at this moment under the Constitution of 1772, which was not abrogated in 1809 when the King of Sweden, descendant of Napoleon's Bernadotte, acting for the Swedes, the original conquerors of Finland, secured peace with Russia by the cession of all Finland to the Russian Czar as a personal dukedom, not to be incorporated under the Russian Government, but to be reigned over by him as an independent duchy. It is confidently believed by the Finns and Swedes that Nicholas does not know about the attempt which is being made by his officials to Russianize the country. The Finnish deputation, sent to call his attention to the action of his government in attempting to destroy the autonomy of Finland, was turned away from the palace gates by order of those who are pushing forward the Russification policy.

Until now the Finns have taken a high-minded stand for no more than peaceful opposition to the bull-dozing conduct of the low-born Russian ruffian sent to rule them as governor-general, but the present terrible famine and the agitation of Russian revolutionists are beginning to tell upon the patience of the younger men, and there is a restlessness among them which threatens open war. The Finns are utterly unprepared for war, lacking organization, money, arms and ammunition, but if they are to survive as a people they must strike nobly or perish miserably. After Finland, why should it not be Sweden and Norway, and then Denmark or Germany, that the Russians will encroach upon? It would seem to be to the interest of those countries and Great Britain to support the Finns against Russian aggressions; to lend their moral and physical support to the Finns, should they revolt, in diplomatic action, and in men and money, too. In all such tyrannic Russia must be opposed by all Teutonic people at every point from now forever.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.

The Culpeper Exponent of current issue contains a kind article on the "Uplift of Richmond," which is gratifying to all lovers of education in this country. Reference is made to the movement now making to get the next Southern Conference for Education in Richmond and words of encouragement given. It is to be hoped that all the newspapers of Virginia will take an interest in this conference, for it will mean a great deal for the cause of popular education in Virginia. It is not a Richmond affair; it is not a State affair; it is not even a Southern affair; it is a conference for Southern education—a conference of educators from all sections of the country, who will while they are here discuss the subject of popular education in its bearing more particularly to Southern conditions. All persons throughout Virginia who are interested in a better public school system should attend the conference, and we can assure them that they will be highly edified and entertained if they come.

MR. WISE, OF NEW YORK.

It appears that Mr. Wise, of New York, is to make a savage attack upon the organic law of the State and ask the United States courts to set it aside. Mr. Wise is a good lawyer and a brilliant orator, and he will doubtless make a gallant fight for his dusky clients. But there are good lawyers in Virginia who say that he will not win, and Virginians will pin their faith to the Virginia lawyers until the courts decide against them.

In the meantime we have no quarrel with Mr. Wise, of New York. It is entirely for him to take this case and earn his fee, and if the test is to be made "twere well 'twere done quickly. The sooner the agony is over the better Mr. Wise has shown his hand.

THE SELF DESTROYER.

(Selected for The Times.)

"He that sinneth against Me, wrongeth his own soul." Prov. viii.35.

Tell a man that 'by sinning he is hurting the unseen God, and what does he care? Touch his little self, and the whole aspect changes at once.

Here is a plant, I saw to the sun: 'I am going to do without you. I will put this plant in a dark cellar.' Do I injure the sun? Not at all! What do I injure? the plant. The sun blazes on; but the plant dies.

I say to Nature: 'Though I have two arms, I will only use one. I shall bind the other down and see what I can do with one arm and hand.' Nature says: 'If you do not use both, you will destroy the limb.' 'But cannot I bind my arm to my side. Keep it there; allow it to hang, and then it shall grow as then I please?' 'No,' Nature says, 'No,' and the law written everywhere says 'No.'

Whoso sinneth against any physical law, wrongeth his own nature, and he shall feel in manifold penalty, in excruciating pain, in gradual, irremediable decay that he has violated an eternal law. He that sinneth against Christ, or wisdom, or light, truth and purity, commits suicide, and brings himself to an untimely death and a dishonored grave.

You have a strong, emotional nature; you will allow that. What are you going to make of it? The question is not will you have it? You have got it. To what use will you put it? Suppress it? Then you will wrong your own soul. Turn it towards low objects? Then you debase one of the highest gifts of God.

You must use it, but how? Will you despise emotion? That is the first sign of your falling. Are you "past feeling"? Then you are near—very near—perdition. If you do not touch a man's emotion you do not touch him. Move his heart, be master of his tears, keep the secret of his joy, and you are master of him. It is possible to suppress emotion. Some men seem to have done this. They are wanting in that holy enthusiasm, the fiery passion, the tender grace, which after all conquers and elevates the world.

You have imagination. What will you do with it? You cannot live within the parrow circle of things visible. You must wonder about the unseen, the distant and the future. Wonder may be the beginning of worship.

What will you do with your imagination? You may starve it. You will have the pauper's crust, when you might revel at

the banquet of a king. "Why," you say, "I intend to take in the whole material universe." Do you? What is "the whole?" How do you know that when you have reached the end of your line it may not be the beginning of another, a longer line? The moment you call your imagination home you interfere with its function and endanger its life. You will belittle yourself, wrong your own soul and waste your powers. You shut yourself up in a cell, when you might enjoy boundless liberty.

You have a profound moral nature. What will you make it? "Hell," says some one. "I am going to do right." What is right? What is your standard? To what do you appeal? Are you going to the utmost limit of infinite right, or according to your own vague notion?

Right is not an affair of terms, it is an eternal quality. It comes to man, first, by intuition; secondly, by revelation. "Well, then," you reply, "I am going to do the best I can." Do you say so? Who will be the judge of the "best you can?" Whoever did the best it is possible for him to do. Whoever imagines that he has kept all the commandments has reached the very consummation of self-deception. They cannot be kept; they forever smite down on the man who tries to keep them—terrible hold.

This is the hold that God has on us. "He that sinneth against Me, wrongeth himself." You do so physically. Do you imagine that you can do as you please physically and escape all consequences?

God makes you to possess in your bones the effects of your moral action. But a man will say, "Surely I can devote what time I please to business." You cannot turn up a gas jet after a certain hour, without nature standing over you scolding against you. You fancy that you have been successful in making your fortune, while in fact you have so used your brain as to entail upon your little boy a legacy of the most painful kind.

You do not believe that an account is kept against you above in the blue sky, but God takes up the matter and works it out in your bones and brain. The Lord still brings up to practical judgment with personal consequences of our action.

We might shrink from any merely metaphysical divinity, but we are compelled to feel in our own flesh and blood when we have done wrong.

What are you going to do? The good man makes the best of his powers, the best of himself.

If you want to sleep well, be good. If you want to do your business well, be good. If you want to enjoy your holiday, be good. If you wish to make a penny go farthest, be good. If you want a happy home, be good.

For your own sake, for the sake of your children, be good. Hear the reviving promise: "O, Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself, but in the is thy help."

We learn from the Birmingham News that in a hotel on the outside of that city Charity Wiggins, the mother of Blind Tom, the musician, lies speechless and almost sightless, slowly passing away. She is now nearly ninety years of age. She lived for a while with her son in New York, but her life in that city was not happy, and the News says she finally returned, broken-hearted, to her old home to die. Last April her two daughters took her to Birmingham to live with them, and since then she has been almost in a comatose condition. The end is not far off.

Governor-elect Bailey, of Kansas, who promised to find a wife before inauguration day, is still open to proposals. No change for this ad.

The three hundred and sixty pounds of Republicanism in the Legislature could hold a good deal of the majority down if he could get it in just the right position.

The Hague peace treaty makes no mention of the Gas-Adicks contest in Delaware, and so the fight goes bravely on.

An actress who swallowed a watch the other day perhaps knows the advantages of timely advertising.

All the paragraphers have taken a shot at the next Speaker as a big gun, and now some of them are finding out that Cannon is a son-of-a-gun.

The New York authorities evidently do not believe in Governor Black's theory that Harry Cornish killed Mrs. Adams. The theory was for jury consumption only.

An army of pickpockets made for New Orleans when they learned that a bankers' convention was in session there. They wanted to mix up a bit with the capitalists.

The coal dealers might as well come on down with their prices. The weather is against them.

Pierpont Morgan needs to hurry up if he wants the earth. An Indiana evangelist and prophet says it will come to an end in 1923.

The Hartford Times says: "The Southern people seem to be as enthusiastic in their greetings to President Roosevelt as the Easterners and the Westerners." Is there anything strange about that?

The Mississippi bears have doubtless heard how the President went for that one up in Pennsylvania and they are keeping scarce.

A new invoice of "lamps" will have to be shipped to Wall Street before there can be a great revival of business. There are no pickings left on the hides of the stock in hand.

There are no trolley cars to claim the right of way in the Mississippi canals.

The Wall Street bears may be only after John W. Gates, as alleged, but it is taking a large number of lambs to keep them in rations during the hunt.

The election bets and the necessity of paying them may have had a little something to do with the late trouble in Wall Street.

Trend of Thought in Dixie Land.

The Chattanooga Times is frightened. It says: "And now there is more solemn talk of the danger of gold exports. What danger can there be in paying the country's commercial debts? New York borrowed a lot of gold abroad a year ago, and the creditors may call for their money some time soon and that is the whole case. The loans must be paid in gold; we have the gold to spare, and to speak of such a thing as being 'dangerous' is mere nonsense."

The Raleigh Post is a little at sea. It remarks: "We really do not know whether to advise our Republican friends—those in as well as those wanting Federal office—to hasten and procure Dr. Booker T. Washington's endorsement or not. It looks like a foreboding necessity for Southern Republicans if they hope to reach the inner sanctum of the new White House."

Florida Times-Union: Boston is anxiously looking for the man who has been striking women on the head "with a blunt instrument," but her success is not commensurate with her zeal. The virtue which was forbidden to kiss the wife on Sundays must find an outlet somewhere.

With a Comment or Two.

Coal is up; wood is up; meat is up; bread is up. The price of everything except postage stamps has the up curve, with the possibility that the only way a poor man can break even is to give it up and turn up his toes.—Home and Farm.

Suppose he should try this: Give up croaking, wake up and go to hustling, and thereby keep up with the procession in this, the upward and onward movement of the day of prosperity.

And so the double-barrelled tobacco combine is neither a combine or a trust, but an alliance. That is all right if they have not allied against the tobacco growers.—Richmond Times.

That's our only concern, too. Call it as you may, so it hasn't a thorn in it.—Farmville Herald.

John Wise, a negro lawyer says, has received a check of four figures as incentive to undertake to Underwood Virginia.—Farmville Herald.

"To undertake to Underwood Virginia" is not a bad way of putting it.

An old negro who lives near Little Rock sold in this city eight bales of cotton at 10-12 cents, although the middling quotation was 14. But this cotton had a staple 1-3-8 inches long, and was white and clean. All of which goes to show that the good farmer gets the money.—Arkansas Gazette.

The same reasoning applies, and like results will follow in tobacco, corn, potato and peanut culture, and will hold good in Virginia as in Arkansas.

Just a Bit Humorous.

Slumber—Don't you know that the wages of sin is death? Doyer Pell—Didn't, mum; but if you'll just mention de matter ter de walkin' delegate o' de Sinners' Union I hav no doubt dey'll get better wages!—Puck.

"You sell ladies' hats here?" began the sour-looking man.

"Certainly," replied the milliner, repressing a smile. "You want to buy one for your wife?"

"No, I don't, but it looks as if I'd have to."—Philadelphia Press.

Angry Passenger—Didn't you hear me tell you to stop the car? Conductor—Yes'm. But one of the officials on the road was looking right at me.—Life.

"Senator, do you believe in political independence?"

"I do," the grand old statesman replied. "I have frequently declined to vote with 'my party' when the other side had larger inducements to offer."—Chicago Record-Herald.

"Few men are as good as they pretend to be." "Well, what of it? Few men want to be."—Judge.

A woman who was attracted by the bright face of a little colored boy who served as "Buttons" in a southern boarding house, stopped one day in the hall to kiss a word or two on his cheek.

"How old are you, Pomp?" she asked. "Is 'jest' preceedin' my teens, missy," he answered, promptly.

"And have you brothers and sisters?" continued his questioner.

"Hain't got a brother nor a sister nor a fadder, nor a mudder," said the little darky, solemnly. "I'm all dere is ob us, missy."—Youth's Companion.

Short Talks to the Legislature.

Emporia Messenger: At the last session the lawmakers were too much engrossed with politics, especially the appointment of circuit judges, to worry themselves with hard work. It is now up to them with a vengeance.

Norfolk Dispatch: The representatives of the people in the Legislature of Virginia, now assembled in Richmond, owe it to themselves and their constituents to pass some law by which the human vultures and parasites, who feed upon litigation and severely punished. Gambling, whether in public or private places, should not be allowed to flourish in this or any other community.

Orange Observer: Virginia must be properly represented at the St. Louis Exposition. It would be a shame for this great State not to have a creditable display. Let the Legislature make a liberal appropriation for this purpose.

Manassas Journal: Wanted—An active, wide-awake bill-killer to watch over the proceedings of the Virginia Legislature.

Norfolk Virginian-Pilot: And so the General Assembly has decided to codify the laws of Virginia all by its little self. And the natural inference is that a majority of the members do not make four dollars a day at home.

Why

Give your shoes to a cobbler to have half-soled when you can have it done at the Electric Power Shoe Factory using sewing around holes like a brogue. No nails or pegs.

Whole soles, \$1; men's half-soles, 75c.; ladies', 60c.

Phone, New, 1232; Old, 2667.

Will send anywhere repair and re-

W. E. DREW & CO.

716 E. Main St.

In the.... Public Eye.

Few buildings of note occupy so large a place in the interest and attention of the out-of-town visitors to New York City as the Stock Exchange. Inquiries in regard to the origin and early development of the great business conducted there are very frequent.

It was under a spreading buttonwood tree in front of the dividing line between Nos. 68 and 70 Wall Street that dealings in stocks in New York City were first conducted. That was in 1772, when the city had a population of only 35,000 and its north-most limit was not beyond the present City Hall Park. Wall Street was then center of the town geographically and in point of importance. On it were the handsomest residences, and there the fashion and beauty of the young city used to disport itself in powdered wigs and silk brocade.

The earliest notices of stock transactions in America are to be found in "The Diary or London's Register," for March, 1772. It first states that "the Stock Exchange office is open at 22 Wall Street for accommodation of dealers, and in which public sales will be daily in rotation." The earliest document in the archives of the New York Stock Exchange is an agreement, dated May 17, 1782, and signed by twenty-four brokers "not to buy or sell at a less rate than one quarter per cent commission." This agreement was formally celebrated by the Exchange.

The Baptists of Virginia are this week rejoicing over their success in raising a sufficient sum for Richmond College to secure to that institution the conditional gift of Mr. John D. Rockefeller. Forty-three years ago this wealthy benefactor of education was a book-keeper in a Cleveland commission house. In 1861 he organized the firm of Andrews, Clark and Rockefeller for the purpose of refining oil, his contribution to the firm's capital being \$4,000.

The business prospered, and in 1866 the firm combined with that of William Rockefeller & Co. Henry M. Flag was taken into the company in 1867, and New York classrooms were established. Three years later the Standard Oil Company of Ohio, capitalized at \$1,000,000, was organized. This brought under control practically all the refining business of Cleveland and large interests in the oil regions of Pennsylvania. In 1882 this great corporation, then capitalized at \$22,000,000, was consolidated with thirty-eight other companies and individuals engaged in producing, refining and transporting oil, forming the Standard Oil Trust, which was capitalized at \$70,000,000, and which had a market value in 1892 of \$121,643,332 and had increased to \$500,000,000 by 1899, when they were reunited in the Standard Oil Company of New York.

The whole concern, capitalized at 1,000,000 shares with a par value of \$100 each, paid dividends of 12 per cent. annually from 1891 to 1895; in 1896 the dividends amounted to 31 per cent.; in 1897 to 30 per cent.; in 1898 to 20 per cent., and in 1899 and in 1901 to 48 per cent. annually. In the first three-quarters of the current year the dividends have been respectively \$20, \$10 and \$5. The highest price ever paid per share for Standard Oil—which, curiously enough, has never been listed on the New York Stock Exchange—was \$840, the sale taking place shortly before the panic of May 9, 1901; during the present year the price has ruled about \$380.

Standing foremost among the honored names of the modern "rights of industry" is Clement A. Griscom, president of the International Navigation Company, and one of the founders of that gigantic corporation, which will soon revolutionize the commercial world, the recently formed American and British shipping concern. In the winter of 1892—Mr. Griscom succeeded in the great object he had been working for years. He gained the necessary legislative aid from Congress, and when President Harrison flung the Stars and Stripes to the breeze from the masthead of the first steamer of the New York Company, the culmination of his ambitions was achieved, and an American merchant marine was an accomplished fact. Since that time Mr. Griscom has been collaborating with Mr. Morgan in his efforts to combine the European steamship companies, and to form one gigantic corporation for the Atlantic service. Success has also attended his work in this line. By reason of the recent combination by which the greater part of the freight and passenger lines of England are now working together, America virtually controls the traffic between England and America, both freight and passenger.

The great Northwestern Railroad merger, which marked the birth of the Northwestern Securities Company and the inauguration of much well advertised litigation, has served to bring into especial prominence at this time "the builder of the Northwest," Mr. James J. Hill. The story of his career is one of interest. He was born in Ontario sixty-four years ago. His father came from good old Irish stock, and was one of the earliest settlers in Upper Canada. Hill, being a hard-working and successful farmer. On his mother's side Mr. Hill is of Dun-

Scottish descent. The boy attended the Rockwood Academy, a Quaker school, for eight years, when his father died, and young Hill was thrown upon his own resources to make his way in the world. At the age of eighteen he went to St. Paul, then a village on the hem of civilization, and became a shipping clerk. He learned the business of transportation thoroughly, and he gradually learned the needs of the great West.

In 1873 his chance came, and he grasped it with courage. The St. Paul and Pacific Railroad had defaulted. He interested Sir Donald Smith and Lord Mount Stephen, and in 1873 he gained control of the bonds of the company, and the purchase was completed.

An interesting event of the week was the dedication of the new Chamber of Commerce edifice in New York. The New York Chamber of Commerce was founded under a royal charter from King George III, in 1766, and for a hundred and thirty-two years it has been in the land, and in all matters of national and civic interest its influence has been world-wide, yet in all this century and a third of its existence the Chamber has lived in rented quarters, and rather inferior relocations that why it has never before had a home of its own. It explained only by the assumption that it never cared to have a home to live in until recently. The magnificent edifice that has been erected is a credit to even New York, a city famous for its splendid business houses. The new Chamber, on the occasion of the dedication, was President Roosevelt and ex-President Cleveland.